

SAPC 26085 ✓

Cy 1 of 5

3 April 1958

MEMORANDUM TO: PROJECT DIRECTOR

SUBJECT : Trip Report - Eastman Kodak Company; Perkin-Elmer Company

1. On the 27th of March 1958 the undersigned personnel visited Eastman Kodak Company. Purpose of the visit was indoctrination and briefing of current operations.

a. In terms of "end results" the E. K. activity is considered unique in that it is the only known processing center capable of obtaining maximum quality consistently. As such, every effort should be made to insure its continued existence or setting up another capability within the U. S. Government convenient to the Project before the E. K. Company activity is disbanded.

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b. Ref [REDACTED] 6553 instructing E. K. Company to cut operations down to one shift. Personnel contacted stated that within a month from receipt of message a 25% personnel reduction will have been effected. Within the next following sixty days a section reduction will be accomplished until the level of staff employment reaches a figure slightly over 55% of those employed before receipt of reference.

(1) A total 50% reduction cannot be effected because the same staff and supervisory personnel will be required as well as personnel performing functions that are necessary to the over-all operation but only require the services of one man.

(2) The slow reduction of force is due to the fact that the E. K. Company must absorb the personnel that are "laid off" into other company activities. Two considerations are involved:

(a) The personnel are considered highly qualified and come from other positions and plants within the company. In order to obtain their services on this project E. K. Company did a certain amount of flag waving and assured the personnel that they would not lose their seniority or rights to promotions.

(b) The present economic situation: Business at E. K. Company has been adversely affected making the task of placing these people in other positions more difficult.

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(3) No unreasonable delays in the processing of project requirements are anticipated even after attaining personnel reduction to one shift. Original processing should not be interrupted once started, however, so whenever missions over 3200' unprocessed film is received, a certain amount of over-time would be required and would be authorized as required.

(4) Recommend that E. K. Company be allowed to accomplish the reduction in forces as planned.

2. On 28 March 1958 the undersigned personnel visited the Perkin-Elmer Company. Purpose of the visit was indoctrination and a briefing on current operations.

a. As pertains to the "C" package:

(1) On or before 15 May '58 an evaluation of the entire system will have been completed. The evaluation will result in a definite statement concerning the feasibility of the system. Since bench tests have resulted in 60 lines/mm resolution on at least one camera, it is reasonably sure that no compromise has been made in the optical system. The problem areas are therefore considered to revolve around vibration and/or IMC. Elimination of the former by proper shock mounting of the entire package and the optical units within the package are required. The degradation due to IMC may be eliminated by the above action; if not, a relatively simple mechanical fix would be required.

(2) Twenty-five thousand dollars will be required for the above evaluation. If the above evaluation is favorable an additional \$60--80,000 will be required to put a total of four cameras in satisfactory operational condition.

(3) HTAUTOMAT and this office are in favor of the project procuring the first operational "C" camera. It would be used in peripheral operations during stand down periods and for overflights to obtain a closer look for technical intelligence of known targets, coverage of which had been obtained on previous missions. It would also be used to advantage on other overflight missions as well as on [REDACTED] type operations when the distance to and from the target is such that time over target area would allow for continuous camera on time.

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b. Previous meetings with HTAUTOMAT disclosed a requirement for synchronization of the tracker camera with the primary mission cameras, and a sharper distinction of the horizons on the film obtained by the tracker camera. This is required in order to obtain more accurate quantitative measurements and to better accentuate the optical axis of the main camera configuration for the prime vertical for geodetic location measurements.

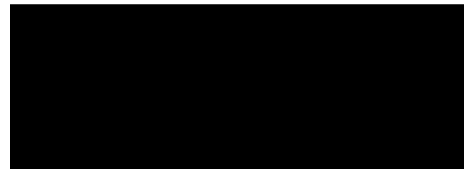
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c. P & E indicated the possibility of resolving both problems by simple and minor fixes. They also stated that they would submit "no cost" proposals concerning same.

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Director of Operations

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Intelligence Officer

PS/DCI/AES/FCF/aem

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